

GRACE AND SHIRLEY

The women stand in a green garden
holding up two gold squash,
their long hair falling down
upon their shoulders
against the rise of plants.
Wild bushes behind them;
whatever the sky has left
pierces through at leafy angles.
Blue is not very ominous
against the garden growers
who have planted, picked
and now hold their product
like limited suns
taken from the vine at will.

ANSWERS

thank you for letting me know
you would rather I wouldn't

thank you for billing me on this item

thank you for inviting me to your party
I can't come

thank you for letting me know
where I made the mistake

thank you for inviting me
to your book reception

thank you for the price by the dozen

thank you for sending me the instructions

thank you for the dinner and the movie
and the other stuff

thank you for the present
which was just what I wanted

thank you for calling to let me
know you will be late

thank you for the green dress
that is now too large for you

thank you for letting me know
you have been ill

thank you for the tickets to the
saturday night concert

thank you for asking me to participate

thank you for letting me know so soon

thank you for telling me this is not
exactly what you are looking for

thank you for answering

MIGRATIONS

i have been out late again
surrounded by people
who seem to know me
and regard me with less
than a skeptical eye

you say we are all
a little mad
drinking and carrying on
with our poems
egos on the sun
that sets and rises
within our own horizons

and i say yes
i suppose it is true
birds of a feather
et cetera

suddenly i feel
like another extinct
species
that only became rare
through dying

POSTURE OF LOVE

Standing in such
a tall position

feet pointed
arms by the side